

Comment on [REDACTED] Selection of Soviet  
Metalforming Machinery for Ruble/Dollar Ratio Study

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1. Most of the items selected for the sample are fairly representative of USSR type production of metalforming machines for which prices are listed in the Soviet Ministry of Finance Pricebook. The Armature Shears on p. 6 of sample are the type used on concrete construction work and are not considered a good selection as metalforming equipment.
2. Important items not included in the sample are: (a) knuckle joint presses; i.e., model K 846, (b) mechanical forging presses; i.e., model MKP 2500, (c) thread rolling machines, flat die type; i.e., models A 251 and A 253 A and round die type; i.e., model 5933. The models mentioned are listed in the Soviet Ministry of Finance Pricebook.
3. The specifications supplied with the majority of USSR machines selected provide adequate details to identify the type, but not the specific US model, to select. In most instances photos or additional construction details are necessary to select a US counterpart; e.g., (a) models A 231 G, 12-0A, A-233, pg. 2 of sample are listed under the word Cutting; it is doubtful they could be properly typed without a brochure or photo which shows them to be Bolt trimming machines, (b) the six hydraulic presses listed on pg. 7 of sample include straightening, general purpose and baling types and could not be properly typed without photos and more details. Poor translation in the sample complicates the job of counterpart selection: e.g., (a) model A 821, pg. 3 of sample, is translated as Semi-Spindle instead of seven spindle, (b) model NA 212, pg. 6 of sample is translated as Armature Shears instead of reinforcing bar shears, (c) model N 533, pg. 6 of sample is translated as Cutting Shears and does not provide a clue to type of equipment described because all shears cut something or other; the machine is actually a "nibbling shear"; (d) the description of the Cold-Forging machines, on pg. 2 of sample, as being integral die and detachable die types is misleading; all these machines have detachable dies but one type is open and the other is a solid die machine.
4. We do not have enough descriptive information available on Pipe Bending Machines and Straightening-Cutting Automatic Machines listed on pg. 7 of sample to make any judgment.
5. Catalog material on US type metalforming machines is not on hand; therefore, it is not possible to select counterparts for the Soviet equipment selected in sample. We know of no research studies giving comparisons of Soviet and US metalforming machines which would be useful for this project.